further search of the records of the Society with the aid of Mr. Weld, the Assistant Secretary, the author ascertained that other members were subsequently added to the Committee, among whom were Bonet, the Prussian minister, and De Moivre, both of whom were foreigners; thus showing that the imputations which might have been cast on Newton's veracity are groundless.

February 5, 1846.

GEORGE RENNIE, Esq., Treasurer and V.P., in the Chair.

Samuel Cooper, Esq. was elected a Fellow of the Society.

"On the Secretory Apparatus and Function of the Liver." By C. Handfield Jones, M.D. Communicated by Sir Benjamin C. Brodie, Bart., F.R.S.

The author is led by his researches into the minute structure of the liver, to results which confirm the view of Mr. Bowman, in opposition to those of Mr. Kiernan on this subject; and particularly with regard to the absence of real tubercular ducts from the interior of the lobules. He concludes that the secreting process commences in the rows of epithelial cells surrounding the central axis of the lobule, and that the fluid there secreted is transmitted to the cells forming the margin of the lobule, where it is further elaborated, and, by the bursting of these cells, is conveyed into the cavity of the surrounding duct. A few diagrams are annexed, illustrative of the descriptions of microscopic structure given in the paper.

"An Account of some Experiments on the Electro-Culture of Farm Crops." By Mr. William Sturgeon. Communicated by S. Hunter Christie, Esq., Sec. R.S., &c.

Grass grown on a parallelogram of land, fifty-five yards long by twenty-two yards wide, enclosed by underground wires, was found to be much more abundant than in any other part of the field; especially in a plot "upwards of fifty yards long, whose breadth was within the wires, and nearly at right angles to the axis of the parallelogram." This plot of grass was principally on the western side of the wires, and extended but a very little way on the eastern side. The axis of the wire-enclosed parallelogram was in the magnetic meridian.

"On the Comet of 1844–45." By John Collingwood Haile, Esq. Communicated by Charles Terry, Esq., F.R.S.

The author gives a series of observations, accompanied by a diagram, made by him at Auckland, in New Zealand, on the comet of 1844–45, which there appeared on the 20th of December 1844 and disappeared on the 30th of January following, having been visible forty-two days. Its most remarkable feature was, that during its greatest brilliancy, the nucleus was not surrounded by the nebulous matter, but was situated at the very extremity of the head, and at times even appeared quite detached.